



STAT

NRO - SATELLITE OPNS OFFICE



9 Aug 1962

STAT

DD/R memo to U/Secty of the Air Force
Subject: NRO Satellite Opns Office

Ref: U/SAF Memo to DDR



1. I am in complete agreement with your concept as expressed in your 15 June memo for holding final control of satellite mission planning and the matching of intelligence collection rqmts and satellite collection capabilities in Washington. Because of the high natl importance, the sensitivity of these activities, and the need for rapid and precise response to the interests of the highest governmental levels, I believe such control can be usefully centralized in a single location in the Pentagon although information centers might be desirable in Langley as well. I also concur with your views that the present CORONA type setup is desirable and that we should avoid the duplication of the existing computerized setup at Sunnyvale with similar facilities in Washington. With the more advanced systems permitting specific on-orbit target selection, this may, however, necessitate greater control on the W.Coast.

.....

5. In conclusion, it must be understood and agreed that operational control of satellite reconnaissance by this means should be confined to satellite programs and not expanded in the future to include certain other activities. I believe that the operational control center for such aircraft programs as TACKLE, etc., should be maintained in the Langley headquarters.

NRO review(s) completed.